

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 01788 190427Z
ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 INR-10
MED-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 HA-05 CA-01 OES-07 ICA-20
CIAE-00 HEW-06 /108 W
-----072265 200422Z /66

R 181124Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0119
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DACCA
USMISSION GENEVA
CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL, ATLANTA, GA
HQ PACAF
NAVCOMSTA DIEGO GARCIA
USS FOX
CLARK AFB (FOR USAF HOSPITAL)
NAVAL HOSPITAL, SUBIC BAY
CMEF
CINCPACFLT
JCS WASHDC
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CDRUSACSG FT SHAFTER HI
CINCMAC SCOTT AFB IL
TRIPLER ARMY MED CEN HONOLULU HI
SECDEF WASHDC
CINCPAC

UNCLAS COLOMBO 1788

CINCPAC FOR POLAD; STATE FOR OFDA; GENEVA PASS TO UNDRO

ATTN: AID/OFDA AND FM/CSD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SWEL, MV
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SUBJ: CHOLERA EPIDEMIC IN MALDIVES - INTERIM REPORT

REF: COLOMBO 1698

1. AS OF APRIL 15, UNICEF DIRECTOR REPORTS CHOLERA CASES
AT 4,108, WITH 143 DEATHS. ON APRIL 17 TELEPHONE REPORT FROM

UN DOCTOR TO UNICEF SET DEATHS AT ABOUT 170. OF THE 19 ATOLLS, 16 OF THEM WITH TOTAL POPULATION OF 129,000 HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY CHOLERA.

2. WHILE PASSING THROUGH COLOMBO, MALDIVES MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, FATHALLA JAMEEL, CALLED ON AMBASSADOR APRIL 18 AND REITERATED HIS GOVERNMENT'S GRATITUDE FOR PROMPT US ASSISTANCE. FOLLOWING IS HIS MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION. QUOTE: I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS SINCERE THANKS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR THE GENEROUS GESTURE OF ASSISTANCE TO THE PROGRAMME IN THE MALDIVES TO CONTROL THE OUTBREAK OF EPIDEMICS AND TO YOUR EXCELLENCY FOR YOUR PERSONAL EFFORT IN INITIATING THIS HELP. THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH WILL BE ALWAYS IN TOUCH WITH YOU REGARDING ANY HELP THEY MAY NEED IN TRANSPORTATION. THANKS ONCE AGAIN. UNQUOTE.

3. JAMEEL SAID THAT MALDIVES CONTINUING TO HANDLE ALL TRANSPORTATION

AND PROCUREMENT OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES THROUGH UN AGENCIES OR BY COMMERICAL PURCHASES. JAMEEL SAID THAT SRI LANKAN GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN HELPFUL. MALDIVES HAS NO FURTHER REQUEST NOW FOR US ASSISTANCE, BUT IF COSTS OF BRINGING EPIDEMIC UNDER CONTROL CONTINUE TO MOUNT, MALDIVES MIGHT HAVE TO SEEK ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

4. JAMEEL WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT LONG-RANGE IM-
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PLICATIONS FOR MALE'S 30,000 POPULATION. MALE HAS NO WATER OR SEWAGE SYSTEM, ONLY WELLS. MALDIVIAN GOVERNMENT IS RE-EXAMINING LONG-STANDING WHO-DESIGNED WATER SYSTEM FOR MALE. HOWEVER, ESTIMATED COST OF PROJECT IS \$7 MILLION, AND SINCE PROJECT IS NON-REVENUE EARNING, GOVERNMENT IS UNABLE TO IDENTIFY SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR REPAYING LOAN TO INSTALL SYSTEM.

5. GOM APPROVED EMBASSY PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE ON US ASSISTANCE TO MALDIVES (REFTEL) AND TEXT WAS RELEASED TO SRI LANKA PRESS ON APRIL 18.
WRIGGINS

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NNN

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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation Codes:
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